

Legionella and the Prevention of Legionellosis

Jamie Bartram, Yves Chartier, John V. Lee, Kathy Bond, and Susanne Surman-Lee, editors

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Legionella and the Prevention of Legionellosis is much less about the former and more about the latter. The book is essentially a risk-management manual for legionellosis, modeled on the World Health Organization's framework for providing safe drinking water. Introductory chapters on the disease and the ecology of *Legionella* spp. and a concluding chapter on laboratory aspects of *Legionella* spp. serve as bookends for 7 chapters on risk management of legionellosis. The intervening chapters discuss known sources of risk for the disease: potable water; cooling towers and evaporative condensers; healthcare facilities; hotels and ships; and natural spas, hot tubs, and swimming pools. A chapter on disease surveillance and outbreak management and another on regulatory aspects complete the core.

Although this book is more a manual than a text, it has much to recommend and little to criticize. An international group of 58 experts contributed to the book, assuring consensus, completeness, and accuracy. Also, unlike many multiauthored texts, which typically suffer from duplication, frequent omissions, and widely varying writing styles, the book's careful editing has averted these common pitfalls. However, an effort to ensure uniformity in some chapters has led to too much rigid conformity to style. An identical template is used for all risk-management chapters, and frequent

use of bulleted lists is not particularly engaging and may prove insufficient for some readers.

The text is generously supplemented, perhaps overly so, with 33 tables, 14 figures, and 24 call-out boxes. However, the book's front matter gives a listing of these illustrations for handy reference. Three appendixes are included: a sample water system checklist, a form for compiling relevant epidemiologic information about patients with Legionnaires' disease, and an example of a national surveillance form. The list of references is impressive, and the glossary of terms will be valuable to many readers.

Notably, this disease-specific treatise arrives at a time when public health officials in some countries are moving toward an all-hazards approach to public health preparedness. Even within this context, this text will remain an authoritative reference for many years to come, and the generic algorithm for ensuring water safety has utility beyond the immediate scope of the book.

The brochure accompanying the book recommends it to environmental and public health officials, healthcare workers, workers in the travel industry, certain researchers, and perhaps some special interest groups. I concur with that general assessment, although the book will be used more frequently by some of those groups than by others.

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Global HIV/AIDS Medicine

Paul Volberding, Merle Sande, Joep Lange, Warner Greene, and Joel Gallant, editors

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In 1988, Paul Volberding and Merle Sande published the first edition of *The Medical Management of AIDS*. The 6th and last edition of this authoritative reference was published in 1999, leaving a void on the reference shelves of HIV care providers. Twenty years after the original book, Volberding et al. now offer *Global HIV/AIDS Medicine*. Their aim is to make this "The first textbook aimed at a comprehensive approach to the management of what is truly a global problem." The first edition of *Global HIV/AIDS Medicine* has been extensively revamped from the previous textbook. Three new editors have been added, the text has been expanded from 38 to 71 chapters, and the 135 expert authors have been recruited from throughout the world.

The text is divided into 6 major sections: Epidemiology and Biology of HIV Infection; Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment of HIV Infection; Diseases Associated with HIV Infection; Prevention and Management in Resource-Rich Settings; Prevention and Management in Resource-Poor Settings; and Economic and Social Consequences of the HIV Epidemic. Advances in HIV medicine since the publication of the last edition are extensively reviewed in the first and second sections. The chapter on the molecular biology of HIV provides an excellent overview of how HIV and cellular proteins interact. Current practices in antiretroviral treatment are nicely summarized in chapters 15–18. In the last 2 sections of the book, the